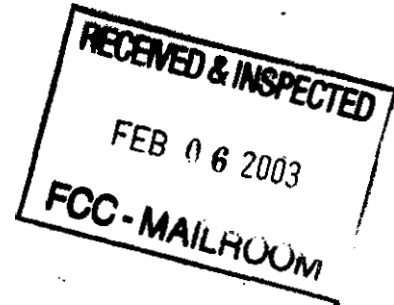


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**Natcom New York Inc.****412 City Island Avenue****City Island, N.Y. 10464****(718) 885-9652 Phone****(718) 885-9625 Fax**

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED



January 28, 2003

The Honorable Senator Ernest Hollings.  
 125 Russell Senate Office Building  
 Washington, DC 20510

Deaf Sen. Hollings:

The competitive aspects of the 1996 Telecommunications Act that you and other ~~Members~~ of Congress worked ~~so~~ hard to pass are in danger of being eliminated at the hands of the Federal Communications Commission. We write to ~~ask~~ your help in urging FCC ~~Chairman~~ Michael Powell and ~~his~~ fellow Commissioners to protect competition and the ~~consumers~~ and small business owners it benefits.

~~As~~ it undertakes in February its triennial review of the regulations governing the Unbundled Network Element Platform (UNE-P), the Commission appears all but ready to ~~hand~~ the RBOCs back the monopoly the Act was supposed to eliminate. If the Commission insists on ~~enacting~~ onerous restrictions on access to **UNE-P** by Competitive Local Exchange Carriers (CLECs), the nation's small businesses and consumers will suffer.

The claims of the RBOCs that they are ~~suffering~~ under the current UNE-P regulations flies in the face of both the TELRIC pricing system and the ~~steady~~ gains the RBOCs are ~~making~~ in the long-distance market. Now that they are ~~getting~~ the "~~carrot~~" ~~promised~~ by the **1996 ACT**, they also want Congress to eliminate the "~~stick~~" so they can be ~~free~~ of the demands competition places on them.

Those competitive demands, of course, are what have given small businesses and consumers across America a choice of phone companies, and with it the lower prices and superior service that competition spawns. The highly restricted **UNE-P** regime that RBOCs demand would reverse all the benefits of competition since the passage of the **1996 Act** - surely not what Congress intended. Such restrictions also ~~fly~~ in the face of the position of the state regulators, whose ability to make decisions based on local competitive ~~conditions~~ are also ~~enshrined~~ in the law.

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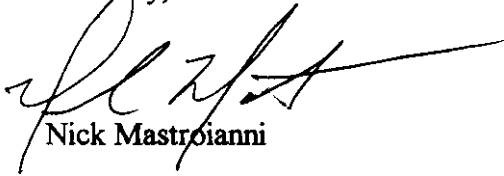
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Distribution Center

We thank you for your leadership on this important telecommunications issue and respectfully ask that you continue to protect the interests of consumers and small businesses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Mastroianni', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Nick Mastroianni

Cc: FCC Chairman and Commissioners:

Chairman Michael K. Powell

Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy

Commissioner Michael J. Copps

Commissioner Kevin J. Martin

Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

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January 28, 2003

The Honorable Senator John McCain  
241 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chariman McCain:

Ever since the passage of the landmark 1936 Telecommunications Act, Competitive Local Exchange Carriers (CLECs) have worked hard to **fulfill** the promise of providing lower prices and better phone **service** to **small** businesses across America.

I'm Writing today because the Federal Communications Commission is **poised** to destroy that promise and return our customers to the monopoly the 1996 Act was designed to eliminate.

The FCC intends to decide in February on new rules governing the availability of certain parts of the networks of the incumbent telephone companies, otherwise know **as** the Unbundled Network Element Platform (UNE-P). We fear the Commission intends to **so** severely restrict **UNE-P** regulations that CLECs **will** not be able to obtain the network access **they** need to serve their customers.

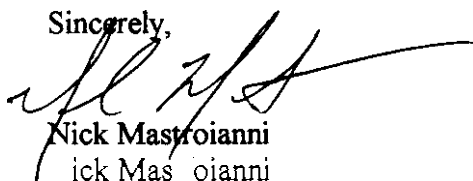
If that happens, small businesses that today **enjoy** the benefits of competition for their phone service will face higher prices, poorer service, and no prospect of competition. This is simply not what Congress intended when it passed the 1996 Act.

Further, such onerous restrictions from Washington will greatly impede the **ability** of Public Utilities Commissioners in the states to make the local decisions on competition contemplated by the 1996 Act.

We ask that you urge FCC Chairman Michael Powell and **his** fellow Commissioners to protect small businesses by ensuring that CLECs continue to have the **full access** to **UNE-P** they need.

Thank you for your leadership on **this** important telecommunications issue that **affects** millions of small businesses, and the **millions** of Americans they employ.

Sincerely,



Nick Mastroianni  
Nick Mastroianni

Cc: FCC Chairman and Commissioners:

Chairman Michael K. Powell

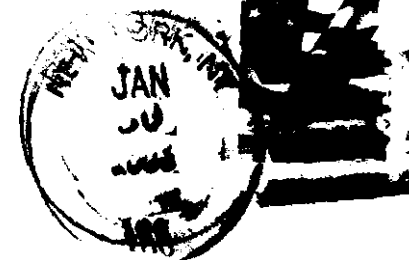
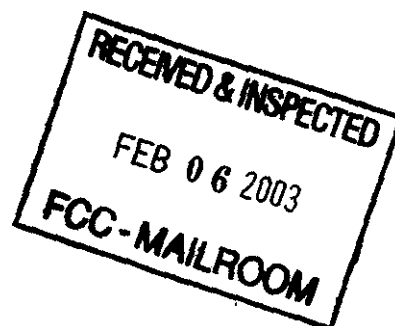
Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abemathy

Commissioner Michael J. Copps

Commissioner Kevin J. Martin

Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein

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445 12th St., SW  
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